

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JULY 26, 2016

Beginning on July 22, 2016, a wildfire arose in the Santa Clarita Valley (Sand Fire), which has impacted a large area of the County. To date, the Sand Fire has caused: 1) one fatality, 2) the evacuation of thousands of residents, 3) the evacuation of large animals, 4) the destruction of eighteen structures, 5) the disruption of local transportation, 6) power outages, and 7) widespread unhealthy air quality conditions. The Sand Fire is considered unprecedented by Fire officials, and created conditions of disaster and of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property.

Several County of Los Angeles Departments have engaged in response and recovery activities including, but not limited to, fire and rescue, care and shelter, animal care and shelter, health and welfare, participation in daily coordination calls, coordination with the local residents, security for the evacuated community, and support to the local jurisdictions. Damage assessments of impacted areas including the assessment of lost and damaged structures have begun in the area. To date, the Sand Fire is not contained and has burned over 33,000 acres and starting on July 23, 2016, the fire began to intensify greatly.

Staff from County departments should be mobilized as soon as possible to assist residents impacted by the Sand Fire. Displaced residents may need assistance from the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles as they seek shelter over the next few days and weeks. The Department of Public Works must take steps immediately to protect and repair critical infrastructure near residents living in and near canyons and hillside areas. The Department of Public Works and Regional Planning must establish one-stop centers to expedite the issuance of necessary planning approvals and building permits for fire rebuilds. And the Assessor should implement measures to provide property tax relief for individuals whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the fire.

- M O R E -

MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

SOLIS _____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors hereby direct the Chief Executive Officer to work in conjunction with the Fire Department, the Sheriff's Department, the Department of Animal Care and Control, the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, the Department of Public Works, the Director of Regional Planning, and the Assessor to:

- 1) Authorize Section 8 housing vouchers to qualified individuals and families, to apply a local preference to those individuals and families, to apply to HUD for any additional funds, including emergency vouchers, and to dispatch a response team to evacuation centers to assist individuals whose homes were lost in the fire;
- 2) Assess the effect of the fires on the infrastructure of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (including roads, bridges, guardrails, etc.), including impacts upon the infrastructure of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (including dams, debris basins, channels, and storm drains);
- 3) Expedite the issuance of building permits for fire rebuilds and establish one-stop permitting centers in those areas impacted by the recent fires;
- 4) Develop concessions for property-owners whose homes were damaged or destroyed in the fires, including extending deadlines for upcoming property tax payments, adjusting property taxes to reflect the recent loss of structures, or deferring payments to future tax years; and
- 5) Provide a report to the Board in two weeks.

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